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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/762,249	02/05/2001	Robert Amson	06591/0208	2875

22428 7590 07/30/2003

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WASHINGTON, DC 20007

EXAMINER

SHUKLA, RAM R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1632

DATE MAILED: 07/30/2003

15

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/762,249

Applicant(s)

AMSON ET AL.

Examiner

Ram R. Shukla

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5-5-15-03.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 26-205 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 26-169 and 178-205 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 170-177 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Amendment and response filed 5-19-03 have been received.
2. Claims 26-169 and 178-205 remain withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 10.
3. This application contains claims 26-169 and 178-205 drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse in Paper No. 10. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.
4. Claims 170-177 drawn to an isolated DNA encoding TSAP 21, disclosed in SEQ ID NO 13, a vector comprising the DNA and a host cell transformed with the vector are under consideration.

Priority

5. Objection to priority is withdrawn in view of applicants' arguments.

Specification

The amendments to the Specification have been partially entered.

The amendment to page 9 has not been entered. Applicants are required to submit a new page with the amendments incorporated into it.

6. The abstract has been entered.
7. Objection to claim 170 has been withdrawn in view of amendments.

Double Patenting

8. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

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9. A rejection based on double patenting of the "same invention" type finds its support in the language of 35 U.S.C. 101 which states that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process ... may obtain a patent therefor ..." (Emphasis added). Thus, the term "same invention," in this context, means an invention drawn to identical subject matter. See *Miller v. Eagle Mfg. Co.*, 151 U.S. 186 (1894); *In re Ockert*, 245 F.2d 467, 114 USPQ 330 (CCPA 1957); and *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970).

A statutory type (35 U.S.C. 101) double patenting rejection can be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope. The filing of a terminal disclaimer cannot overcome a double patenting rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. 101.

Applicant is advised that should claim 170 be found allowable, claims 171 and 172 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof for reasons of record set forth in the previous office action of 11-15-02.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 5-19-03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive since limitations recited in claims 171 and 172 do not further limit the invention of claim 170.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

10. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

11. Claims 170-177 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention lacks patentable utility for reasons of record set forth in the previous office action of 11-15-02.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 5-19-03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants have stated that they had provided sequence alignment in an enclosed attachment; however, no such attachment was present with the response. Accordingly, applicants' arguments cannot be evaluated. Applicants'

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arguments that due to sequence similarity to syntaxin, TSAP-21 may have function similar to syntaxin are not persuasive since an artisan will have to first find out the function of TSAP-21 to use and therefore its use will be for research purposes and therefore there will not be a real world use for it. Applicants argue that specification teaches that the absence of TSAP-21 is indicative of cancer susceptibility on page 4, lines 10-25, however, there is no such teaching in the indicated section of the specification. Additionally, all the genes TSAP 9 TO 22 AND 3 are disclosed to have same way (see lines 17 to 20) and therefore, there it is not clear as to which is a tumor suppressor gene and there is no evidence in the specification to demonstrate that TSAP 21 is a tumor suppressor gene.

12. Claims 170-177 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Specifically, since the claimed invention is not supported by either a substantial and specific asserted utility or a well established utility for the reasons set forth above, one skilled in the art clearly would not know how to use the claimed invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

13. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

14. Claims 170-177 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention for reasons of record set forth in the previous office action of 11-15-02.

It is noted that a detailed analysis of the enablement issues was set forth in the office action of 11-15-02, however, applicants did not address any of the issues.

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15. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

- The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

16. Claims 170-177 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 170 is indefinite because it is unclear as to how the wherein clause reciting "wherein apoptosis or tumor suppression induces the expression of said TSAP 21" further limits the claimed invention since the wherein clause indicates when the DNA is produced. It is noted that this is not a characteristic of the DNA that will define the structure or function of the claimed DNA.

Claim 172 is indefinite because it is unclear as to how the wherein clause reciting "wherein the expression of said TSAP 21 is activated by" further limits the claimed invention since the wherein clause indicates when the DNA is produced. It is reiterated that this is not a characteristic of the DNA that will define the structure or function of the claimed DNA.

Claim 171 is indefinite because it is unclear as to how the wherein clause reciting "wherein said apoptosis or tumor suppression is induced by p53 or p21" further limits the claimed invention since the wherein clause indicates when the DNA is produced. It is reiterated that this is not a characteristic of the DNA that will define the structure or function of the claimed DNA.

17. No claim is allowed.

18. The DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO 13 is free of the prior art of record.

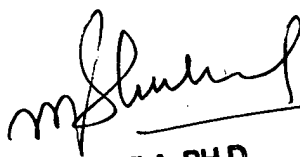
THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory

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period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ram R. Shukla whose telephone number is (703) 305-1677. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Reynolds, can be reached on (703) 305-4051. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-4242. The after-final fax number is (703) 87209307. Any inquiry of a general nature, formal matters or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the William Phillips whose telephone number is (703) 305-3413.


RAM R. SHUKLA, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Ram R. Shukla, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
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